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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Zeitz

614859

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED Germany/Munich 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 5 March 1954 25X1

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information 25X1

1. Between 3 and 12 February 1954, the Infanterie Kaserne (8541), east of Friedensstrasse, Zeitz, was occupied by an estimated 1,300 to 1,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. About 50 percent of the troops observed wore artillery insignia, 30 percent tank insignia, and 10 percent motor transport insignia. At about 7:30 a.m. on 3 February, about 600 troops had fallen in for a weapons inspection in the barracks yard. At 3 p.m., 6 groups, each of about 30 troops, practiced firing with antitank rifles, submachine guns and carbines at Muehlwiese (meadow). At about 10 a.m. on 5 February, about 40 troops engaged in the construction of field telephone lines in the installation. At about 9 a.m. on 6 February, 10 platoons, each of 30 soldiers and equipped with a total of 6 x 82-mm mortars, 3 heavy machine guns, submachine guns and carbines, left the installation for the training area on Muehlgraben. At 3 p.m., the troops returned to the installation. At about 7:30 a.m. on 8 February, about 200 troops were lined up in the barracks yard for issuance of orders. At 2 p.m., a T-34/85 tank left the installation for the Artillerie Kaserne. On 11 February, about 90 troops received instruction on 3 x 57-mm AT guns in the barracks yard. At about 11 a.m. on 12 February, 4 rocket launchers left the installation for Zeitz Forest. Motor vehicles 25X1 were seen en route to and from the installation.

2. Between 3 and 12 February, the Artillerie Kaserne (8542), west of Friedensstrasse, was occupied by an estimated 600 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. A unit of the same strength and equipped with tanks was absent for exercises at the Zeitz Forest. 25X1

At about 10:30 a.m. on 3 February, about 15 JSU-152 guns, left the installation, proceeding to the Zeitz freight station for entraining. The track-laying vehicles had arrived at the installation from Zeitz Forest on 2 February. An officer of the unit stated that the vehicles belonged to an tank SP gun battalion in Borna.[2] At about 7 a.m. on 4 February, a unit of about 500 troops had fallen in for issuance of orders. 25X1 At 3 p.m., T-34/85 tanks were cleaned in front of the entrance of the installation. At about 2 p.m. on 12 February, T-34/85 tank 25X1 left the installation for Zeitz Forest. Motor vehicles 25X1 were seen en route to and from the installation. 1

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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1. Comment. The information definitely confirms in Zeits the 67th Gds Mecz Regt in the Infanterie Kaserne; and the 27th (?) Gds Tank Regt and the 24th Gds RL Bn in the Artillerie Kaserne. 25X1

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The tank firing practice of the 20th Gds Mecz Div in the ZeitzForest started in January.

2. Comment. As the tank turret check with the statement by the officer, according to which the SP gun unit had come from Borna, the information tends to indicate that a unit of the 1st Gds Tank Regt of the 8th Gds Mecz Div engaged in firing practices in the Zeitz Forest. This observation again indicates the increasing importance of the Zeitz Forest firing range. 25X1

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